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Daily News - Miner

1983 HUNTING EDITION

Hunting Tips • Game Predictions

In this informative annual section, sportsmen will find tips on where and where not to hunt, new hunting regulations, hunting forecasts on a wide variety of game animals, and methods of preparing and preserving game.

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Dall sheep hunters rank at the top

By SUSAN FISHER
Staff Writer

Wayne Heimer calls Dall sheep hunters the "creme de la creme" of hunters.

"Any number of people in the United States will save up all their money" just for one good sheep hunt, says Heimer, a sheep biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks. "They figure they're only going to do it once."

Some states offer a special governor's permit for Dall sheep, and people have paid as much as \$50,000-\$60,000 just to get that one chance.

The biggest issue of importance to sheep hunters in Alaska right now is "S. 49," a bill sponsored by U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, to amend the 1980 Alaska Lands Act and reopen 12 million acres of federal land in this state to hunting.

The lands act closed vast acreages of sheep habitat within national parks—areas traditionally and popularly hunted—to all but subsistence hunting.

About 25 percent of the sheep hunting available was affected by those withdrawals, and Stevens is now pressing to change that, saying it was intended that the areas be opened in the congressional agreements leading toward passage of the federal act.

S. 49 is getting strong and loud resistance nationally from environmental, conservation and wildlife protection groups.

Dall sheep hunters are a different breed. The hunt is the experience, and they generally are trophy hunters, as opposed to moose and caribou hunters wanting to take meat. Sheep are edible, though, and a number are taken by subsistence hunters as well.

"Success is less important than having a good time, being away from people and in the mountains," Heimer says. "They have been to the very

ends of every mountain range in Alaska.

"They will go as far as they can afford to go. It costs a fellow easily a thousand bucks to go sheep hunting.

"There are people in the Delta Controlled Use Management Area that put \$5 down last April for a chance to walk 20 miles just to go sheep hunting," Heimer adds. Motorized vehicles are prohibited in controlled areas.

A nonresident sheep hunter pays an average of \$9,000 just for the hunt, not counting airfare to and from Alaska or taxidermy charges, Heimer says. Nonresident hunters account for about 15 percent of all hunters, yet their success rate is an astounding 35 percent of the total take statewide. Heimer speculates that because nonresidents must have a guide, their chance for success is improved.

The big costs are to hire guides and pay airfare into remote, mountainous areas.

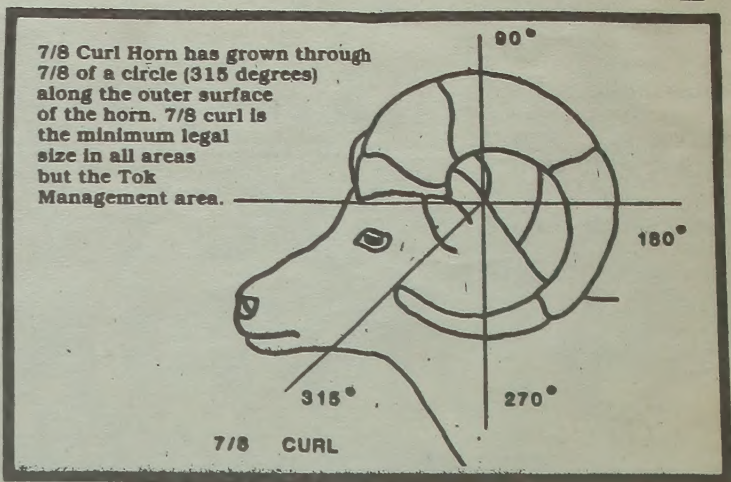
"It depends on what you want. If you want to have a wilderness sort of experience, not being bothered and seeing a lot of game, it means you're going to have to go up north, which means a thousand bucks for air charter," Heimer says.

There are closer areas to Fairbanks, and one of the best areas, in Heimer's opinion, is the Tok Management Area. The drawback is that hunting there is by drawn permit.

Hunting is open in the area from McKinley Park to the Richardson Highway, except it is fly-in. "Populations are good, but hunter pressure is large," Heimer says.

Some hunting is available in the Tanana Hills, "but populations are small . . . and there are plenty of people to take them," in the Tanana uplands between the Tanana River and the Brooks Range.

Hunters with their own planes and fuel can cut costs.



About a decade ago, the state of Alaska queried all sheep hunters. Out of 600, only one said he went sheep hunting expressly to get meat. "You go to have fun," Heimer says, but adds that game sheep "is the best meat there is, it's never tough, it's always beautiful."

Success is fairly high—about 35 to 40 percent, compared to moose with a hunting success rate only in the teens.

"Sheep are highly visible. They stay at home. They can't run into the woods. If you're persistent, you can go almost anywhere they can go," Heimer says.

Dall sheep come down to the lowlands in the spring, and perhaps for a short time in the fall. In the summer and winter they are up at elevations of 2,500-5,000 feet.

An annual take of Dall sheep rams in Alaska is about 1,000, including subsistence takes. Heimer says the total sheep population is 50,000-60,000. A total 10,000 Dall sheep rams may be available during the hunting season.

Hunters may only take older rams, with a minimum 7/8 curl, putting them about 6 or 7 years old. "We don't think the way we handle rams right now has any drastic affect on the population," Heimer says. Ewes are not permitted for taking now, because of slow regrowth, "but our mind isn't closed—we're looking at it."

Females have short, straight horns and look like mountain goats. It's never been proven that a ewe can produce twins, Heimer says, and that makes it easier to calculate population.

"Under optimum conditions you might expect a 3 percent increase" annually in sheep.

Sheep mortality factors include wolf predation, bears and eagles preying on lambs, snowslides, sheep falling off mountains, diseases and parasites, and the weather itself.

Heimer reminds sheep hunters to turn in their harvest tickets and to cooperate in two projects—estimating the age of their ram and completing an economic study questionnaire to be mailed out later.

Sheep hunters canvassed on how much they spend

It's generally known that Dall sheep hunting in Alaska is an expensive proposition, but just how much money do hunters spend to equip themselves, to fly into remote areas and on time spent hunting?

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game wants to get a better handle on these costs, and this year will be asking sheep hunters to cooperate in giving such information on a special, confidential questionnaire as part of an economic study.

As land use conflicts come into play, the result of federal protected lands and Native ownership as well as the state's own management policies, sheep hunting grounds are threatened.

"We are fairly confident that we know which activities related to development aren't good for sheep, but we are unable to put a dollar value on projected losses," says sheep biologist Wayne Heimer.

Heimer and Sarah Watson are in charge of the questionnaire project for the department's regional office in Fairbanks. Also participating in this survey are resource economists at the University of Alaska.

The state department already knows that sheep hunters spend money on equipment, transportation and time, but there are other economic factors involved: jobs and income for many Alaskans, including guides, air charter operators, sporting good dealers, cooks and packers, as well as those in the tourism industry. Hunting also is very important to Alaskan hunters as recreation and part of their lifestyle.

Dall sheep hunters turning in hunter reports this fall will be sent a brief questionnaire.

Hunters can prepare ahead of time by making notes of expenses and time spent planning, traveling and hunting. They will also be asked questions such as their income and length of residency. All replies will be anonymous.

Biologists and economists will use the information to determine the value of Dall sheep hunting as an industry to the state.

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How old is your ram? Read this

By SUSAN FISHER
Staff Writer

Last year Dall sheep hunters were asked to try to determine the age of their sheep by counting the annual rings on the horns.

"Sheep hunters surprised nearly everyone with their ability to accurately determine the age of their trophies," says Wayne Heimer, sheep biologist.

So, this year the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will ask hunters to get even more specific as they try to date their ram's age.

Figuring out the sheep's age is not an easy task because counting rings itself is not the most accurate method. About the only sure way is to completely destroy the trophy, and hunters undoubtedly are not willing to do that.

Understanding how rams develop can give clues to better estimating age.

It is known that lambs are born in late May or early June and begin to grow horns immediately. The horn growth stops for a time in early winter. This period coincides with the breeding season, or rut, but probably has little to do with the formation of the ram's first annulus, or horn ring.

When this ring is formed, the baby ram will have grown as much as three inches of horn, but one to one-and-a-half inches is more typical. Horn growth resumes in late winter for these very young rams, and continues to the next rut in late November or early December.

The second annulus is the least distinct of all those a ram will form during its life. This ring is generally a rather smooth, but lumpy, area in the thin portion near the end of the ram's horn. Most second-year annuli have no clearly defined ring. They are most easily identified as a thickened bank, one to one-and-a-half inches wide, around the horn.

As the ram matures past the second year, the annuli become distinct and are rather easily counted. However, there is a complication. The horn segments—the distance between annuli—begin to get progressively shorter each year after the third year's growth. As they get closer together (when a ram nears the end of his natural life), they may become difficult to distinguish. In some cases they are separated by as little a distance as the thickness of a nickel.

Horns will be wrinkled along the outer surface, and these wrinkles should not be confused with true horn annulus. An annulus is a complete

groove which goes all the way around the ram's horn where each year's growth stopped. They should be more distinct than "false annuli" or normal horn wrinkles.

On a particularly difficult horn, remember that each year's growth will be shorter than the year before in a normal ram.

Here are some other pointers:

- The lamb horn grown before the first winter of a ram's life is typically 1-1.5 inches or more, and it is common for this portion of the horn to be worn completely off the horns of old rams.

- The best place to begin counting is on the second annulus, or ring. Look for a rather wide, bulbous area about four-to six-inches from the horn tip. The first real horn ring will be the third, which typically is three-to six-inches from the lumpy second annulus.

- After the third annulus, each year's growth will be progressively shorter than the preceding one.

- Real annuli are deeper than the natural wrinkles of a horn, and they completely circle the horn. They are most easily counted on the inside of the horn curl.

- You can usually run your thumbnail along the groove of true annulus on the inner side of the horn curl and scratch off some white flakes resembling dandruff. This test is difficult to do on "false annulus."

- Most minimally legal rams (at 7/8 curl) will be 5 to 7 years old, although older or younger rams with 7/8 curl will be taken depending on the growing characteristics of the geographic area.

- Full-curl rams are usually at least 6 years old and more often closer to 8 years.

You have your game, so be careful how you prepare

After all the work in the field to get enough meat to feed family and friends this winter, you should take special care with the freezer storage and wrapping of your meat. Improper care at this stage of the game could ruin anyone's best efforts.

Get your wrapping equipment now, before the season opens and the supermarket shelves are bare. Look for moisture and vapor-proof freezer wrappers to ensure the longevity of your meat.

Only cut as much meat for storage as can be wrapped at one time. Separate the steaks, roasts, stew meat and burger, which have been cut into useable portions, marking each kind as you wrap to prevent confusion.

Wrap the meat in tight, secure wrapping, pressing out all air bubbles. Use either the butcher or the drug store wrap and seal with locker tape or heated iron. Place two pieces of wax paper between steaks to make them easy to separate.

Maintain the freezer storage temperature at a constant 0°F to keep a good quality of meat. Fluctuating temperatures above 10°F cause rapid deterioration of color and flavor. With proper handling, game meat may be stored for six to 12 months. However, if sausage seasoning is added to the ground meat before freezing, the

freezer life is only three to five months.

Proper care of your meat is relatively simple if you follow these easy steps. The task becomes more involved if you don't have refrigeration accessible, but meat is still possible to keep.

Hunters without refrigeration usually try to kill game when the weather turns cold. With a screened meat house, permanent cache or some protected place, the meat may hang outdoors all winter. Meat may be sawed into two-or three-day cooking portions as needed.

Even if game has been taken before the cold weather has settled in, meat may be safely outdoors if nights are cool and it is placed out of direct sunlight and rain. Air should be able to circulate around it and pieces shouldn't touch one another. Screening or netting should be used to protect it from flies. Cheesecloth should be held away by sticks, wire, hoops or an improvised framework.

An emergency cache at the kill site may be improvised by elevating boxes, barrels or drums to keep out of the reach of marauding animals.

As with freezer storage, meat which has been safely kept before freeze-up may be cut and wrapped for storage when winter comes.

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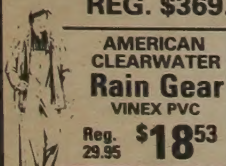
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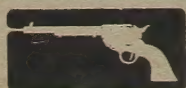
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Fees help preserve future of hunting

Hunters pay dearly for the experience, but part of the state and federal licenses, tags and taxes they pay in turn goes for research, management and habitat enhancement to protect the resources they use.

State fees for nonresident game tags have been raised \$100 or more over last year, now ranging from \$135 for a deer tag up to \$1,100 for a muskoxen tag.

In 1982, under the old fee system, nonresidents paid \$1,158,450 for tags and \$348,573 total for hunting and trapping licenses.

Resident license fees and tags remain the same as last year, as do nonresident license fees.

Alaskan residents last year paid \$129,447 in game tags and \$913,515 in various hunting and trapping licenses. The state received \$1,854 total from the 25-cent "household" licenses sold primarily to subsistence users, and \$2,500 in license fees from professional guides. Another \$26,089 was received from military personnel buying hunting licenses.

All nonresidents must have a license to hunt. Military personnel on active duty and permanently stationed in Alaska, but who do not qualify as Alaskan residents, may obtain a special nonresident military small game and sport fishing license, but

must pay the full nonresident fee for big game hunting licenses and half the nonresident tag fee.

Both hunters and fishermen pay federal Dingell-Johnson and Pittman-Roberts taxes when they buy ammunition and equipment. Those federal funds are parceled back to states, based on geographic size, for fish and game resource activities.

State license and tag fees goes into the Alaska Fish and Game Fund, a special fund used to support research, rehabilitation and management for the species that are hunted and fished in this state.

Tag fees are not refundable or transferrable.

Nonresidents will pay these tag fees this year: deer, \$135; wolf, wolverine, \$150; black bear, \$200; elk, mountain goat, \$250; moose, caribou, \$300; bison, grizzly or brown bear, \$350; Dall sheep, \$400; walrus, \$500; muskoxen, \$1,100.

Resident fees are \$500 for Nunivak Island and Arctic National Wildlife Range bull muskoxen; \$25 for Nelson Island and Nunivak Island muskoxen and brown or grizzly bear; and \$5 per application fee for drawing permits for all species except muskoxen.

Marine mammal hunting is under the management of the federal government, and information should be obtained from the U.S. Department of



Special moose hunt slated

A change in the way moose hunting will be handled in Subunit 25-D this year undoubtedly will cause gripes by some and hurrahs by others.

Following state Board of Game action this spring, the subunit encompassing a Yukon Flats area around Stevens Village, Beaver, just west of Circle on the east, north to Nelson Mountain, west to Dall City and south in the Mount Schwatka area will be subject of a special hunt.

Only residents of that geographic area will be allowed to apply for a moose permit to take antlered moose from Aug. 25 to Oct. 5.

Aircraft is not permitted.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game representatives will issue 25 permits at Beaver, 25 permits at Stevens Village and 10 permits at Birch Creek, beginning Aug. 10.

Hunters should make note that the 1983-84 Registration Permit Hunts supplement incorrectly states this hunt is for antlerless moose. That should read antlered.

"You're seeing the imposition of the subsistence law," in this hunt, says game biologist Larry Jennings. "When the resource gets low, you start excluding people" from hunting.

In this case, the moose population is low in the subunit, thus rural residents of that area will have the opportunity to obtain permits to hunt.

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Planning a hunting trip?

Be sure to know the rules

By SUSAN FISHER
Staff Writer

Long-time Alaskans may long for the past, when hunting was a matter of getting out in the open, experiencing wilderness and solitude, feeling pride in good sportmanship and the besting of a formidable animal.

Those days are not altogether gone, but the rules have changed.

No hunter should venture into the field without a current copy of the state regulation book and the hunting supplements. No hunter should presume remote lands are open hunting grounds. No hunter should assume it's OK to use an off-road vehicle or that traditional hunting rules are still in force.

Today's hunter would be wise to do some research before packing up the equipment and taking off.

Congress passed the Alaska Lands Act (d-2) in 1980, and while land title transfer has been slow in coming, a lot of acreage has been turned over to the state and Native corporations.

The act also set aside more than 124 million acres in national parks, refuges, preserves, forests and protected areas, in which hunting privileges depends on the classification.

Ignorance of the law is no excuse, and willful and intentional violations can compound your woes.

If this is your first hunting experience in Alaska, you need:

- A valid state hunting license;
- The July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984 "Alaska Hunting Regulations" book, No. 24;
- Copies of the permit hunt and hunting supplements;
- Game tags, varying in fee depending on the species, and harvest reports and tickets;
- A professional, licensed Alaskan guide if you are a non-resident hunter;
- Permission to hunt on private lands;
- A basic understanding of state hunting law.

Experienced hunters need to be aware that their traditional hunting lands may have changed hands.

Generally, state lands, except some state parks, and federal lands under Bureau of Land Management jurisdiction are opened to hunting. There are some exceptions. For example,

bowhunting is permitted in the Dalton Highway corridor, but off-road vehicle use is prohibited. Also, some areas within game units are closed controlled areas.

The surest check of land ownership is to inquire at the BLM offices on Fort Wainwright, weekdays during office hours. The BLM has maps showing federal, state and private land ownership.

Federal lands under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Park Service may be closed to hunting. Inquire through the appropriate federal agency. Also double-check the type of weapons and vehicles that are permitted. Obtain all necessary written permits.

Hunters interested in going on state land are advised to make inquiries at the Alaska Division of Lands office at 4420 Airport Way. In general, state-owned lands are open to hunting, but there may be a few exceptions, as in the case of state parklands.

In the case of private lands, the property owner must give permission. If no trespassing and/or no hunting signs are posted, stay away. If an individual orders you to leave private property, you must depart.

Failure to abide by posted written notice or verbal instructions on private property is a Class B criminal trespass misdemeanor, and can subject you up to a \$1,000 fine.

Bison hunters, for instance, need to obtain permission before venturing onto private lands in the Delta Junction area. Some farmers are amenable, others will refuse permission.

A lot of land in Interior Alaska has passed from federal hands to Native regional and village corporation ownership, particularly in and around remote villages and along river systems.

Doyon Ltd.'s land management office will consider requests for permission to hunt on Doyon lands. That permission must be requested in advance. Doyon is the Native regional corporation based in Fairbanks, with vast land holdings in Interior Alaska.

Likewise, some of the lands are held by individual villages. Hunters should contact village leaders to get permission.

All questions about season length, bag limit, geographic areas, hunting



times and the like should be directed to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Offices in Fairbanks are at 1300 College Road.

illegal or unethical conduct by others. Try to gather as much detail as possible on the type of violation, where it occurred, the time and date, photographs if possible, descriptions of sus-

pects and vehicles, direction of travel and any other information that would help.

Even if details aren't available, pass on to Fish and Wildlife Protection or Alaska Troopers what you do know or observe. It may be a missing piece of information necessary to make an arrest of a poacher.

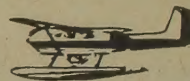
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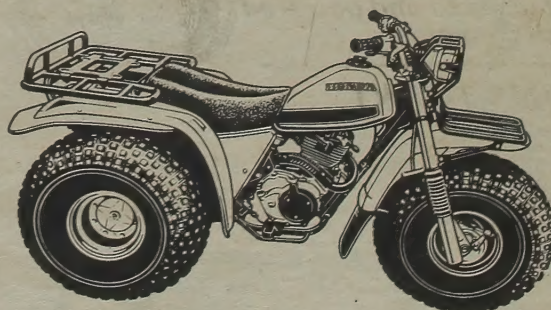


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Wolf, bear control topic of meeting

Bears and wolves are the key predators of moose and caribou, and in Alaska debate can rage over how far the state should go in predator control to the benefit of hunters and at expense of wildlife.

This winter when the state Board of Game convenes for its twice-yearly meeting, the subject of predator control will be on the agenda for open discussion.

The board's winter meeting begins Dec. 2 in Anchorage.

Last year, before a change in state administration's led to a number new appointments to the regulatory board, the previous board reaffirmed its policy of wolf control.

But there were outcries of protest, primarily from the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, which filed a complaint with the state Ombudsman, formally protested at the spring meeting and submitted a raft of proposed hunting changes on moose and caribou in retaliation.

The thrust of the complaint was that the game board did not take public testimony or advertise its plans to take up the wolf control policy.

Wolves are a prime predation factor in the Interior, but in other areas of the state bears are blamed for diminishing caribou and moose populations. And in Northwest Alaska, wild

caribou are predators in a different sense, luring reindeer from private herds.

Anyone may submit a regulation proposal for the board's consideration, regarding specie seasons, bag limits and methods. Forms are available at the Department of Fish and Game's many offices around the state, along with explanations of how to write a proposal.


In the Interior, the black bear hunting harvest is low this year, although biologists aren't sure why. The black bear population has been cyclical in the past, varying from year to year and partly depending on natural mortality.

Hunters took about 200 black bear in Game Management Unit 20 in 1980-81. Last year the take declined, and this year it is not expected to exceed about 100.

Wolves tend to be more of a control problem, rebounding rapidly. Even in areas where wolves were eradicated, whole packs have come back very quickly.

Regarding other populations, hare, ptarmigan and grouse populations all appear to be down this year in the Interior. The hare population did not reach the high density it has in the past when the population cycle is at its peak.

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Hunters to get their shot at caribou herds

Census figures from counts taken this year aren't completely tallied, but it is clear that caribou numbers in the Interior are up.

Some permit requirements have been eased and seasons extended, giving hunters expanded opportunities in certain geographic areas.

The increase in caribou and moose populations in some areas is attributed to wolf control, says game biologist Larry Jennings, with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

But unlike moose, which tend to stick to a home radius, caribou tend to be erratic in their movements, and good hunting in an area one year may be poor hunting another year, Jennings said.

From early figures there appears to be about a 20 percent increase in the Delta caribou herd in Subunit 20A, in the area between the Delta and Nena rivers and north of the Alaska Range. Last year's census put the number at 7,000. Jennings says estimates are the final tally this year will show 7,500 to 8,000 animals.

Last year hunts were by permit in the August-September season with a registration hunt during December through March.

The state Board of Game dropped all permit requirements for this year, setting a one caribou bag limit and a season stretching from Aug. 10-March 31.

"It gives everybody an opportunity to hunt whatever time of the year he wants to. You don't have to go out in August. If you have a snowmachine, you might want to go out in March," says Jennings. The longer season

"provides for a variety of hunting experiences."

Jennings forecast is that the best hunting early on, to the first half of September, likely will be the area west of Wood River. "The area west of Totalanika River will be open to vehicles, so people with three-wheelers ought to have pretty good luck in there."

"People with airplane access or horses might want other areas," he added.

The Nelchina caribou herd, ranging south of the Alaska Range between the Denali and Glenn highways and over to the Richardson Highway, remains on a permit hunt. During the hunting season those caribou tend to stay in the Talkeetna Mountains.

Those who didn't win a permit for the Nelchina herd might consider the Fortymile and Denali caribou herds.

The season for the Fortymile herd is Aug. 10-Sept. 20 and Dec. 1-Feb. 28, with a two bull-bag limit.

Jennings said the department's latest census puts the Fortymile population at 12,500. The ultimate goal is to return the population level to the 50,000 it was back in the early '50s. The population dwindled to a low of 4,000-5,000 animals in the mid '70s.

Some wolf control is under way on part of the range.

Jennings predicts that when the herd population reaches 20,000, hunters will see a change. Right now a lot of the herd is young, he said. The hunting season is scheduled to avoid the time when the herd now crosses the Taylor Highway.



BROWSING CARIBOU—A large buck caribou, antlers thick with pre-mating season velvet, feasts on the fall tundra near an oil rig at Prudhoe Bay. The shedding of velvet in late August and September marks the approach of the October rut. Both male and female caribou have antlers; most bulls shed theirs by late January, while females are "bald" by late spring. (Sohio photo)

A buddy can be hunter's best friend

Waterproof matches could save your life, and if you choose to carry the lightest pack into the field possible, make sure you at least have these.

The three most important items for outdoor survival are food, shelter and waterproof matches, says Lt. Terry Jordan of the Fish and Wildlife Protection Division.

Wildlife protection officers generally are viewed as enforcement only, but they can save the lives of hunters who have mishaps in remote areas. The officers are Alaska State Troopers, and as such are first aid-trained and prepared to respond in emergencies.

Each year they are called upon to aid hunters who have wrecked planes or boats, Jordan says.

"We're first on the scene in most cases," he says.

Jordan's advice is don't hunt alone. If you insist on going alone, leave explicit instructions as to where you are going and when you intend to return, he says.

Hunters don't like to burden themselves down for short trips, but they should consider how prepared they will be for emergency situations.

"It's difficult to tell someone what

to take. Up here you don't have to worry too much about water, but you might want to take water purification tablets," Jordan says.

There are wildlife protection offices around the state, and Alaska State Troopers can respond to calls for help as well as reported game violations.

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Moose are plentiful in flats of unit 20A

Mid-September, that's the best time to head out moose hunting. It's also when leaves drop, opening up visibility, and the time when moose are preparing to rut.

The moose hunting outlook this year varies depending on the area, says Larry Jennings, game biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's regional office in Fairbanks.

Subunit 20A has an estimated 6,000 moose and has been growing at an annual rate of about 25 percent since 1978.

Most of that growth is in the flats rather than the foothills, says Jennings.

"About 73 percent of the Tanana Flats moose population live between the Little Delta and Wood rivers," according to Jennings, and the moose density averages 1.6 per square mile.

Compare that to the area west of Wood River, where moose density is

more like .75 per square mile, about half as many.

Department biologists have been sampling the moose population east of the Little Delta, and Jennings said it appears the population is not very high.

Because of the higher population between the Little Delta and Wood rivers, the moose hunting season has been extended this year. The Tanana Flats area west of the Little Delta will be open Sept. 1-30, and the foothills from Sept. 1-20.

There is also a Nov. 21-17 season in part of the Tanana Flats west of the Little Delta River.

The bag limit is one bull.

More than 90 percent of the hunters using Subunit 20A are resident hunters, Jennings said.

Permits are still being issued for moose hunting in the Minto Flats area, says Jennings, and that season is from Sept. 15-25 and Nov. 10-15. The



MUNCHING MOOSE—Fish and game biologists say moose hunting in the Interior looks better than it has for several years.

(News-Miner file photo)

permit requirements are a reflection of a low moose population, thus requiring the harvest to be restricted. One hundred permits will be issued for that area.

"Moose hunting looks better than it has for quite a number of years," says Jennings.

The season in Subunit 20C has been increased by five days, this year running from Sept. 1-20, with a one bull bag limit.

"Hunting is going to be only mediocre," Jennings predicts, because moose populations are not very

(See MOOSE, page B-9)

BUD'S

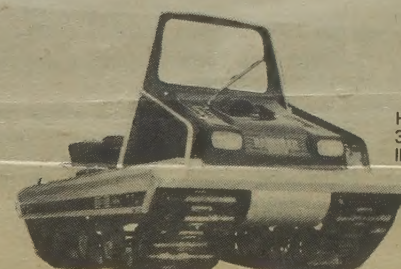
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Extra time available if bison hunter fails

It's not often that bison hunters are totally unsuccessful, but this year there's some added insurance that time won't be the reason for not bagging your buffalo.

As a result of state Board of Game action, the Department of Fish and Game will be able to extend hunting time on into March for those who missed their bison in the allotted fall hunting time.

Game biologist Dave M. Johnson in Delta says the bison herd is estimated at 450, about the same as last year. However, the herd size is at a record number, way up from previous years.

Hunting is by permit only, and winners of the drawings have been announced. Times are staggered from the September opening through December, with each hunter being assigned a two-week period.

Bison hunting success is very high, Johnson says. Last year perhaps only four or five people didn't take a bison.

Practically speaking, the two-week period has not been a problem. Most people get their bison within a few days, he said.

However, bison hunters are cautioned that in the Delta area, they can expect to spend quite a bit of time upfront finding property owners to ask permission for hunting on private lands.

Johnson says the Delta office will

loan maps identifying lands and property owners for hunters.

"We have hunters stop by here so we can show them how to identify a bull and cow bison," Johnson adds. The Department of Fish and Game office is located along the Richardson Highway about a mile north of Delta Junction.

This year, after the two-week periods have ended in December, the department staff now has discretion to extend hunting opportunities for unsuccessful permit holders through March.

At this writing in early August, the bison were along the Delta River between Donnelly Dome and Delta. As time passes, they will move into the Delta Junction area, onto the state bison range and near the agricultural lands.

Bison are heavy animals, but Johnson says hunters have good ground access to downed bison, and in most cases can drive vehicles up to or near the animal. "Some people have used boom trucks and wreckers," Johnson says.

Bison are less wary at the start of the season, but later on become more sensitive and run.

Permit bison hunts are also being conducted in the Farewell and Glenallen areas.

MOOSE . . .

(Continued from page B-8)

dense in that area.

In Subunit 20E, hunting in the Fortymile area will probably be about the same as last year. Moose numbers are low and the Sept. 1-10 season is short.

Probably the best areas will be around Kechumstuk and Mosquito Flats, primarily off-road-vehicle country, Jennings suggests.

In the Delta Junction area, moose numbers in Subunit 20D and south of the Tanana River is slowly increasing, says game biologist Dave M. Johnson.

For the past decade, the season has been closed by emergency order, generally after four days. This year the state has set a four-day season in regulations, from Sept. 1-4, and dropped the registration permit in the area south of the Tanana and west of the Johnson River. Hunters must

have a moose harvest ticket. The remaining portion of 20D has a Sept. 1-15 season, and hunters should make note of a closed section, the Delta Junction Management Area, described in the regulation book.

Details on all the moose hunts are listed in the regulation book and hunting supplement.

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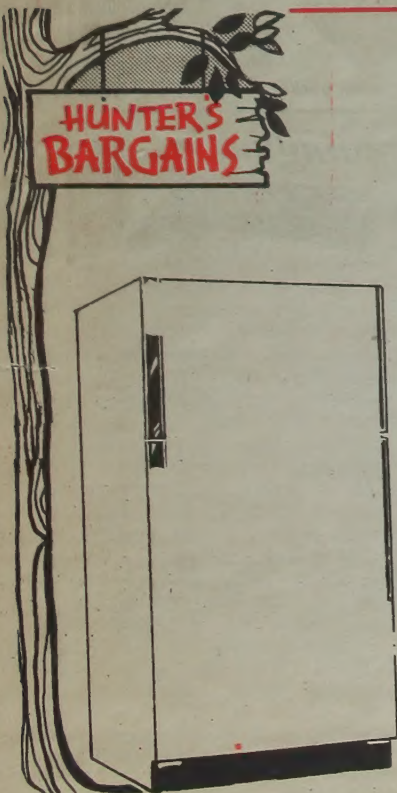
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Care of meat includes right shot, proper cuts

How you shoot your game can make a difference in the final quality of meat on your table, but proper handling of meat also involves taking care in the cutting, aging, packing and freezing.

A neck or chest shot is preferred. Little edible meat will be destroyed and the paunch contents will not contaminate any meat. It also will be unnecessary to cut the throat since sufficient internal bleeding will occur in the chest cavity.

An animal taken without an opportunity of overheating increases chances of choice table meat.

Entrails should be removed with caution, avoiding puncturing the intestine, paunch or bladder, which can contaminate meat. Lungs and windpipes should be removed.

The animal should be rapidly cooled to hanging temperature, about 35 degrees Fahrenheit, if possible. Remove the hide, which can prevent meat from cooling properly.

When skinning meat, take care not to allow hair to come in contact with meat, which can result in an off-flavor.

Some animals, particularly during the rut, take on a strong odor, largely confined to the skin and hair. That odor can be transmitted to meat if the hunter contaminates his hands while handling the hide. In this instance hands should be washed before touching the meat to avoid giving it a strong and gamey flavor.

After skin is removed, begin quartering the animal. Remove both front shoulders. Lay the meat on clean plastic and keep them free from dirt, sticks and leaves. Use a saw to cut the animal in two by cutting between the first and second ribs. Splitting down the center of the pelvis

separates the hind quarter. Ribs can be removed from the front half by sawing them off to within 10 inches of the spine.

The remaining neck and back portion can be left intact or cut in two.

Meat should be kept dry. Avoid wetting it, especially in weather where it cannot immediately dry and glaze. If wetting occurs, blot the meat dry as soon as possible. Paunch contents in contact with the meat should be wiped away with a damp cloth.

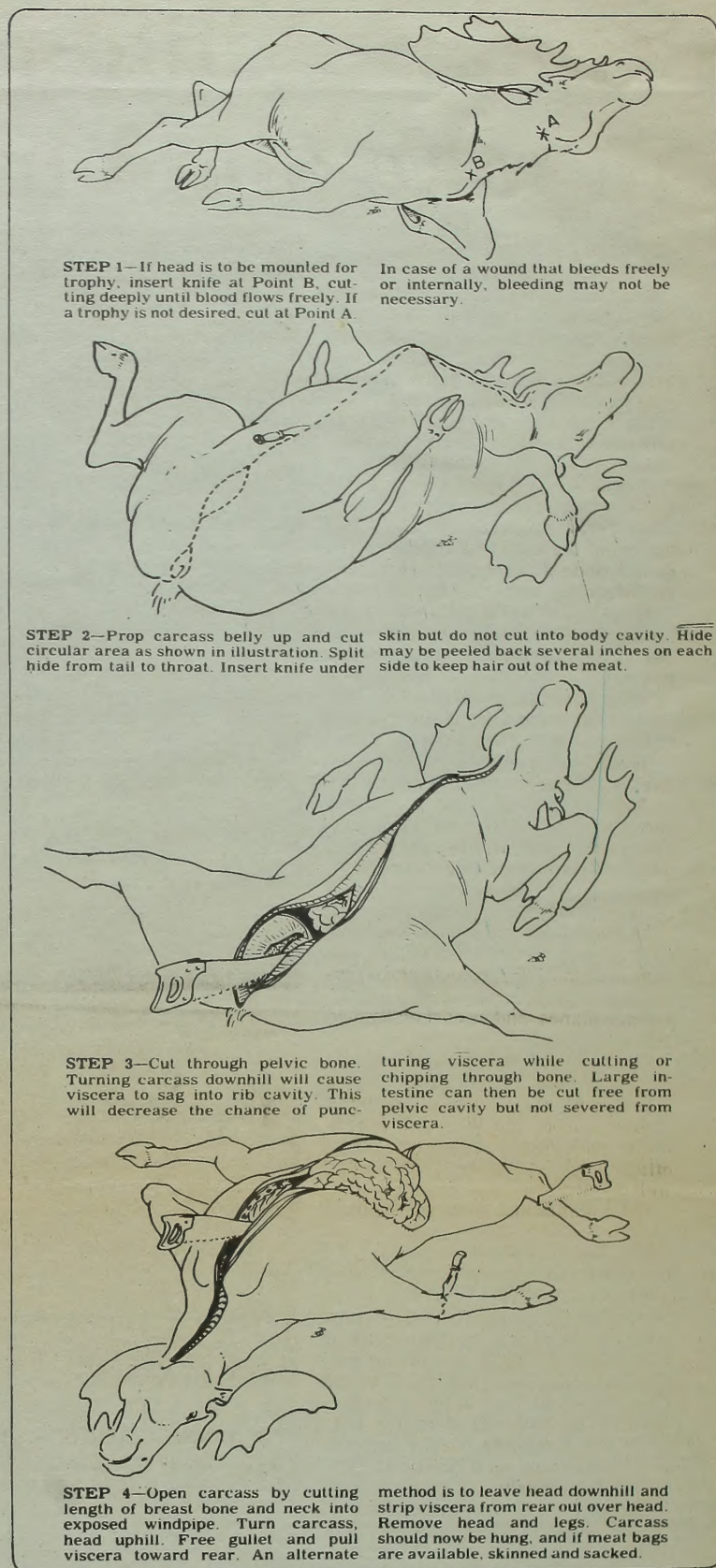
Hang chunks of meat in cheesecloth bags in a cool, shady spot until the meat cools and glazes over. If cooling prior to transporting is not possible, be sure the meat is free to "breathe" and continue cooling while being transported. Do not place meat in plastic or other airtight bags during the cooling or aging process.

Hanging tenderizes the meat due to the enzymatic action which occurs naturally in flesh. Some sourdoughs claim a moose should be hung at least 10 days prior to butchering. Meat need not be hung as long in warm weather since the aging action is accelerated at higher temperatures. Moose generally require longer aging than other Alaska big game.

Crust which forms on exposed meat during aging should be removed prior to cooking, since it can give an objectionable flavor to the meat. Flies can be discouraged by sprinkling black pepper on the meat. A small smudge fire will also discourage insects.

Hunters should have this minimum equipment for butchering large animals in the field: a knife with at least a four-inch blade, a small saw, meat bags of cheese cloth, rope, a packboard and sheet of plastic.

(Information courtesy the Alaska Department of Fish and Game)



STEP 1—If head is to be mounted for trophy, insert knife at Point B, cutting deeply until blood flows freely. If a trophy is not desired, cut at Point A.

In case of a wound that bleeds freely or internally, bleeding may not be necessary.

STEP 2—Prop carcass belly up and cut circular area as shown in illustration. Split hide from tail to throat. Insert knife under

skin but do not cut into body cavity. Hide may be peeled back several inches on each side to keep hair out of the meat.

STEP 3—Cut through pelvic bone. Turning carcass downhill will cause viscera to sag into rib cavity. This will decrease the chance of puncturing viscera while cutting or chipping through bone. Large intestine can then be cut free from pelvic cavity but not severed from viscera.

method is to leave head downhill and strip viscera from rear out over head. Remove head and legs. Carcass should now be hung, and if meat bags are available, skinned and sacked.

STEP 4—Open carcass by cutting length of breast bone and neck into exposed windpipe. Turn carcass, head uphill. Free gullet and pull viscera toward rear. An alternate

method is to leave head downhill and strip viscera from rear out over head. Remove head and legs. Carcass should now be hung, and if meat bags are available, skinned and sacked.

Hunters have stake in safety observance

Careless hunting could lead to permanent closures of areas near populated areas, and it's up to all hunters to exercise cautious, safe and ethical conduct wherever they hunt.

Unless hunters take positive steps to curtail vandalism and careless attitudes, they may find themselves regulated out of some of the best hunting areas adjacent to Fairbanks.

Certain sections in Goldstream Valley and the North Pole area are reopened to moose hunting for rifle-men, after being closed for eight years. Several new subdivisions have sprouted in the interim, and hunters should exercise extreme caution in these areas.

Of 52 accidental woundings in Alaska last year, 14 involved hunters and two were fatal. Eighty-five percent of the shootings were self-inflicted, the remainder caused by mistaken identity and failure to control direction of their gun's muzzle.

Gun owners should take a little time each year to familiarize themselves with their weapons and basic safety rules. This effort can help prevent simple but deadly mistakes and possibly a lifetime of grief.

The shooting sports, and hunting in particular, have a well-deserved reputation of being among the safest and most enjoyable of outdoor sports.

Common sense rules, outdoor courtesy and shooting safety are the real weapons against nonhunters, anti-gunners and offended property owners pressing for hunting curtailment.

Waterfowl hunters in the Badger Slough and Murphy Dome areas should be especially conscious of roads, houses and people. Every hunter should know what is in his path before he pulls the trigger.

Hunters should remember that they

too often are blamed for obvious signs of vandalism to roadside property and highway signs. Shotgun pellets traveling a thousand-feet-per-second can seriously damage property and injure people at distances exceeding 100 yards.

(Information courtesy the Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

A guide to saving your trophy



Work quickly to save your trophy. Deterioration begins rapidly and is the main cause for meat spoilage and "hairslip" which leaves large bare spots on the hide after it is tanned.

Here are some trophy tips:

- Don't cut the throat for a full head mount.
- Remove blood immediately from white sheep.
- Avoid wire or tin tags, which can leave rust marks.
- Dry skins away from sun or fire.
- Ship promptly, and do not use airtight containers.
- Skin should be completely removed from the skin. Use salt to remove meat from the head skin.

For head and shoulder mounts, make an initial cut along the back of the neck and second cut forming a V or T running to the base of the horns. Carefully cut around horns or antlers and cut away skin from the base. Use a heavy screwdriver to pry skin loose from around antlers.

Cut ear cartilage from skull on inside and clean meat away from base of ear. King out the back sides of ears to within a quarter-inch of the edges. Skin down the skull. Avoid cutting through skin, particularly around the eyes. Preserve eyelids.

Cut lips close to the skull, leaving lips attached to the skin. Split the inside of the lips.

Cut scalps long enough for mount desired. For full shoulder mounts, cut scalps at the forelegs to include enough of the brisket. It is not necessary to clean the entire skull. Taxidermists use manikins, so all that is needed is the top of the skull with horns or antlers attached. Saw off top of skull through the center of the eyes after skinning is completed. Remove brains and excess meat around skull cap, then salt.

Do not split skulls of horned or antlered animals. Do not cut bear skulls—remove the brain through the hole at the base of the skull.

Protect teeth by wrapping in newspaper or cloth. Tie lower jaw firmly to skull in the normal position, using cord or leather thong.

Salt used on thick skin found on the back of the neck of bison, moose or elk will penetrate to a quarter-inch. Heavier skins should be resalted. Reduce thickness with a series of flat shavings using a sharp knife, or by cross-hatch or cuts halfway through the skin while it rests over the knee or a pole. Cuts should average 1½ inches apart.

State wildlife protection officers to take aim on hunting violators

By SUSAN FISHER
Staff Writer

Wanton waste of game and same-day airborne hunting can cost a hunter thousands of dollars and plenty of jail time, plus confiscation of planes and other property. Professional guides can lose their licenses.

There are any number of violations that come into play during the hunting season, and it's the responsibility of hunters to know the law and abide by it.

Lt. Terry Jordan heads the I Detachment for Fish and Wildlife Protection under the Department of Public Safety. He and his officers are responsible for the vast geographic area from the Canadian border to the Bering Sea, from Haines to the North Slope.

Officers will be out in force this season, on the lookout for violations and to aid hunters in trouble.

Ground patrol by means of horseback and three-wheelers will be used early on, especially at the start of the sheep season. That same approach, along with boats, will be used for the early moose and caribou seasons. Officers will also patrol the mountains by helicopter.

As the season progresses and winter sets in, patrol officers will be use snowmachines. For remote areas, enforcement personnel will be using Super Cub planes and occasionally use boats.

Plain-clothed officers will also be out in the field, Jordan said.

In the Alaska Highway, Chishana (north side of the Wrangell Mountains) and Tok Management areas, officers will use ground vehicles as well as aircraft.

Float planes and boats will be used in the area west of Koyukuk.

Wanton waste and same-day airborne are the most serious violations, Jordan said.

Leaving portions, including hind-quarters; or all of a slain game animal in the field is wanton waste and carries penalties of a minimum \$2,500 fine and seven days in jail and maximum \$5,000 fine and 30 days in jail.

"We're enforcing it very seriously," Jordan said, and courts, too, are taking it seriously.

Well-intentioned and experienced hunters can easily find themselves in violation of the wanton waste law, Jordan said.

"I think the big one, even with experienced hunters, is they shoot something and don't realize how far away it is from the road or highway," he said. Moose, especially, fall into that category. The animal is large, the carcass heavy, and moving the animal even in portions frequently is more difficult than hunters imagine.

Same-day airborne has been prohibited for years, and it also carries stiff penalties. Hunters must wait until 3 a.m. the day following landing to hunt.

Other violations that can get hunters in a jam are:

- Failure to leave sex identity



LICENSE CHECK—A Fish and Wildlife Protection officer checks the hunting licenses of a pair of successful moose hunters in last fall's special hunt. Wildlife officers will be out in force again this season looking for violators and hunters in distress.

(News-Miner file photo by Eric Muehling)

attached to moose and caribou, including antlers;

- Failure to validate a harvest ticket immediately after a kill is made by completely removing from the ticket the day and month the game was taken;

- Shooting on or across a highway;

- Taking or holding live game without a permit;

- Littering, including leaving remains of a game animal on a highway or highway right-of-way (entrails, hides, etc. should be left in the field out of sight of roads or trails; take other garbage with you and dispose of at home).

Hunters also should know the state law regarding threat of animals posing a threat to life or property.

"There's a very remote chance that you're going to be attacked by a bear," Jordan said.

Before killing a threatening wild animal, you must make "a reasonable effort to scare the animal away," the lieutenant said.

The threat to property applies only to those items absolutely essential for a human's survival, such as a tent and food supply. Game already taken by a hunter does not fall into that category, Jordan said.

If a hunter shoots a bear or threat-

ening wild animal, he must report that to the state within 15 days. He also must salvage the hide and skull of the animal.

Rabid wild animals have not been a problem in the Interior in recent years, but hunters should be mindful that when in the wilds, they could encounter a rabid animal.

Watch for signs that the animal is not acting properly, perhaps stumbling. Stay away from the animal and avoid destroying it. If it gets close and acts menacing, try not to shoot it in the head. Jordan says rabies can be determined only by examining the brain. Take the head to the nearest Trooper or Wildlife Protection office.

Want to see a hunting regulation changed?

There is a state board, regional council and local committee on hunting and fishing that hunters need to keep in mind if they want changes in state laws and regulations.

The seven members on the State Board of Game are appointed by the governor to make policy and regulations for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The Alaska Constitution provides that the state's fish and wildlife shall be used, developed and maintained on

a "sustained yield" basis. To this end, the board of game determines hunting season dates, the type of hunt (open, registration, permit), bag limits, closed areas and numbers of animals.

The board, which next meets in December, also makes decisions on habitat, predators and population enhancement.

Board members are: chairman John Shively, Anchorage; vice chairman Sam Harbo, Fairbanks; Brenda

Johnson, Nome; Joel Bennett, Juneau; John Hanson, Alakanuk; Sidney Huntington, Galena; and Kirk Gay, Anchorage.

The Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee makes recommendations to the state board on behalf of the public at large in this area. It is one of about 70 such committees throughout the state.

Chairman is Tom Scarborough and members are Doug Buchanan, Byron Haley, Dave Keener, Thomas McCar-

ty, Pete Buist, Roger Burggraf, William Waugaman Sr., Jim Dunlap, Lynn Levensgood and Lamar Wood Jr.

Scarborough expects the committee will next meet in October.

Congressional passage of the 1980 Alaska Lands Act created six new regional councils. Chairmen of local committees comprise the regional council membership. Tom Scarborough is the Fairbanks representative to the Interior region committee. That group is expected to meet in November.

Duck hunting is different in Alaska

Hunters over age 16 must have a license and a federal stamp to hunt waterfowl in Alaska.

Duck hunting in Alaska is excellent, says biologist Jerry McGowan, but hunters lose out when they make assumptions based on experiences in Lower 48 states.

The key here, McGowan says, is to note that the season is very short—two or three weeks instead of two or three months—and “you have to get somewhere to hunt, not out the back door.”

Availability of birds in Interior Alaska largely depends on weather patterns and timing of fall migration.

The season opens Sept. 1, just as many birds are in the process of leaving for southern wintering grounds. Although the season runs through Dec. 16, it's the early hunter who gets the bird. By November extreme weather is in the offing and most waterfowl have left.

Species commonly taken are winged geese, pintails, mallards, green-winged teal, shovellers, lesser Canada geese, sandhill cranes and snipe.

The combined limit on game ducks in the Interior is 10 per day and 30 in possession. For Canada and white-fronted geese the combined limit is four a day and eight in possession.

Hunters are allowed two cranes per day, four in possession, and snipe limits are eight per day and 16 in possession.

Waterfowl may be attracted to lakes, potholes or streams in early September, and that early hunting time may mean opportunities closer to major towns. Get permission before hunting on private lands.

Shooting over decoys is popular, but jump shooting along streams and lakes, or stationing along flyways and pass shooting can also be productive techniques.

Licenses are available at most sporting goods stores. The federal

waterfowl stamps can be obtained at post offices.

Waterfowl hunting is permitted only from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Timetables and other regulations can be obtained from the Department of Fish and Game office, 1300 College Road. Sunrise and sunset information is published on the front page of the Daily News-Miner.

Board of Game may change fees on bears

State Board of Game members will have an option this winter to eliminate bear tag fees for grizzly and brown bears by geographical area.

For now, there are tag fees at \$350 for nonresidents and \$25 for residents, not including hunting license fees.

The move was initiated because of bear predation.

The board meets in early December, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff are preparing proposals.

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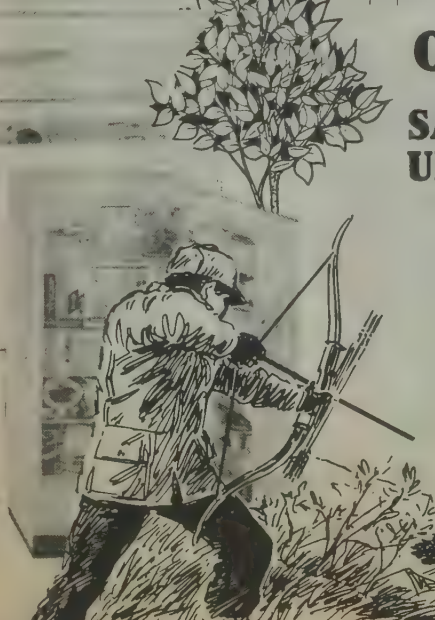
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Bowhunters to sight in on new area

Bowhunters got a tradeoff this year: a smaller hunting area but a longer season in the special area near Fairbanks.

Following action this spring by the state Board of Game, an exclusive bow-and-arrow area near Fairbanks was altered and the dates changed.

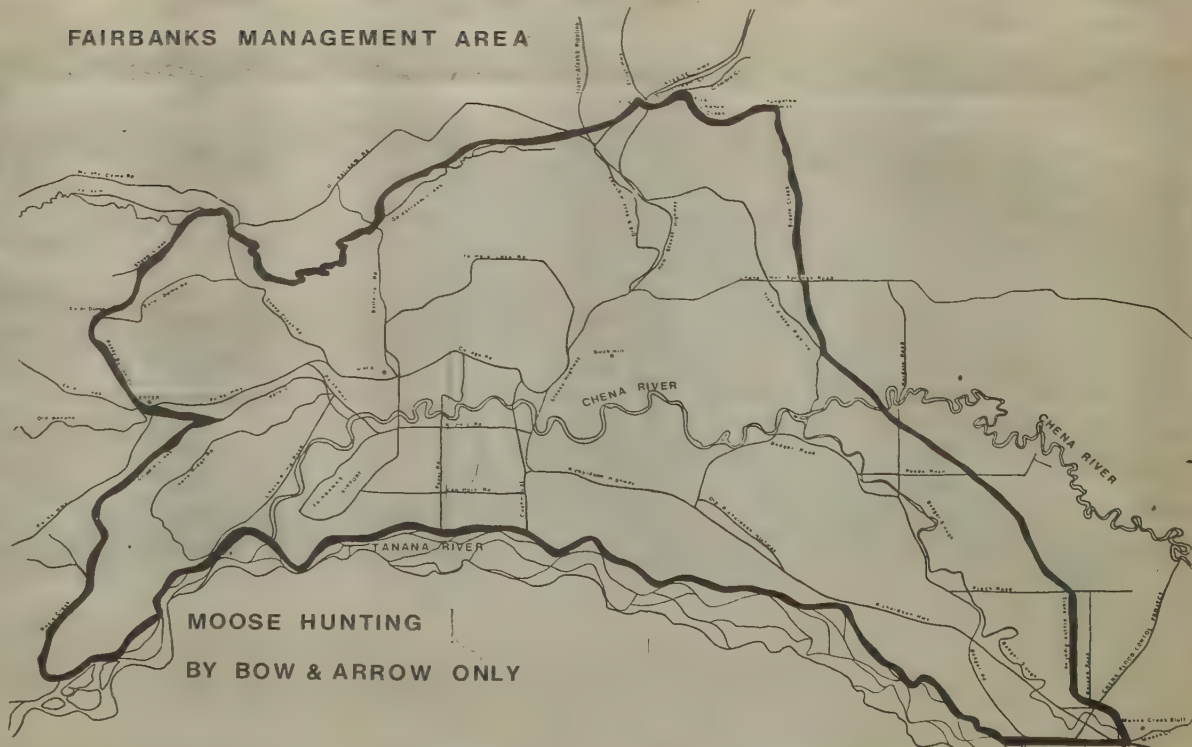
This year's season will be Sept. 1-30 and Nov. 21-26.

Hunters should take note of the boundary change. Previously the exclusive bowhunting area extended to 20.5 Mile Chena Hot Springs Road. The revision now opens the northern half of the Goldstream Valley to rifle hunting.

Bowhunters should find the new boundaries easier to locate. The the oil pipeline borders the eastern side, with Steele Creek Road, Goldstream Creek, Sheep Creek, Cripple Creek and the Tanana River providing other geographic locators.

Bowhunters must have a hunting license.

The Dalton Highway corridor—five miles either side of the highway—is



closed to hunting with firearms. Bowhunting is permitted north of the Yukon River except for a portion of Subunit 26B, closed to the taking of moose.



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Hunters must turn in harvest tickets



SHEEPISH LOOK—Hunters who bag Dall sheep this year will be asked to report more information on the ram's horns and which of the two major drainages they hunted. Instructions for both are printed on the back of the harvest ticket.

(Alaska Department of Fish and Game photo by Jim Faro)

It cost the state of Alaska \$16,000 last year to send reminder letters to hunters who failed to turn in their harvest tickets by the deadline.

"This money could be saved if hunters or potential hunters would take their reporting obligations more seriously," says Wayne Heimer, a sheep biologist in Fairbanks with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

"Hunters can really help by returning their own reports on time and by reminding others to do the same," he says.

State law requires hunters to report harvesting of deer, sheep, moose and caribou, and failure to do so is a violation of game regulations.

This year the reporting questions will be different, and the information from tickets is important for several reasons. The department uses information to calculate how many animals have been taken by population and in geographic areas.

For the first time hunters will be asked to keep track of their expenses and time spent planning. That information, Heimer says, will be used to better estimate how much hunters spend and how that relates to Alaska's economy.

Usually hunters have been asked the time they spent in the field, but not the time spent planning their hunt or traveling.

"Most agree there is much more to a hunting trip than time spent in the field," Heimer says.

As land title is conveyed from the federal government to the state, local governments and Native corporations, a myriad of land use plans are in the works.

Hunting data "will give a clearer picture of the use of sheep and moose resources by hunters and should be considered when recreational use is weighed against possible land use alternatives, which may result in reduced hunting opportunities," Heimer explains.

The tickets have been streamlined to save money and increase efficiency. Hunters will not have to be as specific as in the past on location of where their game was taken. That information proved to be more specific than was required.

Moose hunters will be asked to report by Game Management Unit, drainage and a landmark, if possible.

Sheep hunters will be asked to report between which two major drainages they hunted.

Instructions for both are printed on the back of the harvest ticket.

Additionally, sheep hunters will be asked for more information on their ram's horns. Last year hunters were asked to estimate the age of their Dall sheep by counting annual rings on the horns. This year they will be asked to use a more detailed method of estimating age.

Sheep and moose hunters will notice changes in the transportation section, and will have an opportunity to comment on their hunting experience.

Any questions about the reporting requirements should be directed to the Department of Fish and Game.



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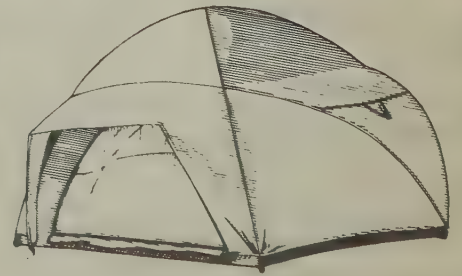
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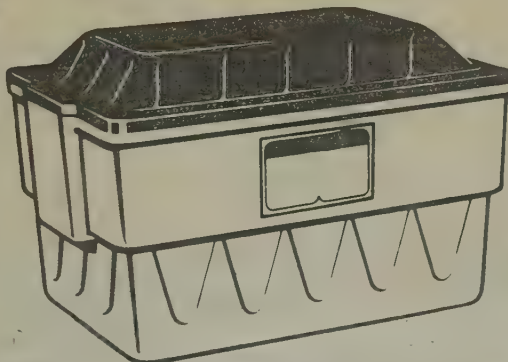


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Hunters should help with surveys

Paperwork is something most hunters don't relish, but a series of questionnaires to come out in future months should not be overlooked. The answers will be used in six new "operational plans" for game in Interior Alaska.

Operational plan is a rather dull term for an exercise very important to hunters as they compete for resources and land use.

Jerry McGowan, a game biologist with the department in Fairbanks, says ideally there should be an operational plan for each game species and every game area managed, but "that's not realistically possible."

To start, the department staff has selected some species in areas "where we feel there are definite things we can do to actively manage wildlife."

Those involve the Delta caribou herd, the Yanert caribou herd, the western portion of Subunit 20D moose, moose in Subunit 20A, the Fortymile caribou herd and hunting in the Dalton Highway corridor.

There are two phases of public involvement, McGowan said.

First the department asks the pub-

lic to comment on how the department should proceed on management. That has been handled in the past by publishing questionnaires in the newspaper and making them available at the department's office at 1300 College Road.

For example, the questionnaire could ask how the respondent feels about the department managing moose for maximum hunter participation in a certain area. That may sound good, but if the area is too close to settled areas, the quality of the hunting experience could be diminished because of too many hunters in the area.

Plans are already in the works for the Yanert and Delta caribou herds and the moose in the 20D area.

Questionnaires on the other three topics should be coming out sometime this fall, said McGowan.

After plans are drafted, there is a second opportunity for public involvement by means of commenting on the draft.

McGowan envisions that the department staff will work with groups such as local fish and game advisory committees.

The idea is to strike accord with

public wishes in reaching management decisions.

"If it's a total impasse, if the public wants us to do something that biologically from our expertise is impossible, we will just have to report to the (state game) board it can't be done," said McGowan.

McGowan says the plans ultimately will be useful to a number of groups. The state game board, which decides hunting issues per species and by area, will have a plan detailing population goals and growth rate, plus other factors that come into play.

Area biologists will know what the priorities are in carrying out game management programs, McGowan said. It will mean continuity when new biologists come onto the staff.

Hunters should see more consistency in policy and regulation, although

"We will never get 100 percent consensus," says McGowan.

What about natural diseases, disasters or predation problems that would reduce a population? McGowan replies that the plans will address how management should be handled in those events.

The department has employed strategic plans in the past, but McGowan said the new approach will be much more specific.

Those will include a variety of information, based on surveys and census of animals, historic harvest, hunting methods such as the effect of snowmachines, predator/prey relations, the status of the habitat, land status including industrial development and competing uses, reproduction rates and mortality factors, and so on.

Subsistence law will be enforced

A governor's task force to examine subsistence hunting and fishing issues is expected to meet in October to begin hashing out some of the more controversial points of the state law and regulations.

In the meantime, state law enforcement officers will be following the letter of the law when it comes to hunting regardless of the politics of subsistence.

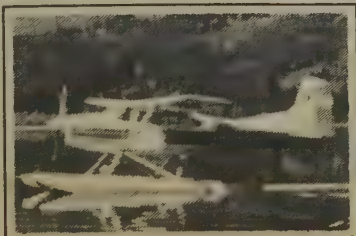
Arrests will be made for taking game in closed areas or during closed seasons, for taking a sex not permitted for hunting, for violating the bag limit and other rules, says enforcement officers.

Two recent court cases on game violations were dismissed on the basis of subsistence hunting, but the state is appealing both to higher courts.

The 1980 federal Alaska Lands Act mandates the state to give priority to subsistence users in order for Alaska to retain management of fish and game resources on federal lands.

Only a few hunts are identified specifically as subsistence. For example, the taking of brown bear in the Gates of the Arctic National Park and a caribou hunt in a portion of Game Management Unit 13 are limited to qualified subsistence hunters who must obtain permits and submit affidavits.

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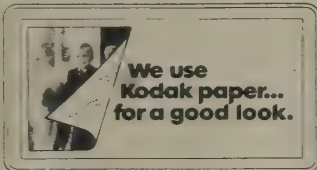
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Rabbit Fricassee

Note: Tularemia is found in Alaskan rabbits. If the rabbit appears sluggish, or shows any abnormality, it is best not to use the meat.

1 rabbit
 1/2 cup oil
 2 cups hot water
 4 cups raw vegetables (this may include peas, coarsely chopped carrots, potatoes, onions and celery)
 1 teaspoon salt
 1/4 cup flour
 flour, salt and pepper mixture

Roll cut-up rabbit in mixture of flour, salt and pepper. Heat oil and brown the rabbit slowly, turning often. Add water and cover the pan. Cook slowly on top of range about one hour, or until rabbit is almost tender. Add water if needed during cooking. Add vegetables and salt and cook about 20 minutes longer, or until vegetables are done. Or, after browning, bake the rabbit at 325 degrees about one-and-a-half hours, add vegetables, and bake about 30 minutes longer. Mix the 1/4 cup flour with a little cold water, add a few tablespoons of hot liquid from the pan, and stir the mixture into the liquid in the pan. Cook 15 minutes longer, or until sauce is smooth and thick. Serves 8.

Permit needed to hunt on post

At least 11 hunting classes will be offered this month, none in September, but resume in October for civilians and military personnel planning to hunt on Fort Wainwright military reservation and other Army lands.

Civilians may hunt, trap and fish on military land by permit. Hunters must take a hunter safety course, which takes about one hour and is free of charge.

The Fort Wainwright Wildlife Enforcement Office, located in Building 1562 on the post, will be closed in September while personnel are in the field. That means hunters must obtain permits in August and take classes this month if they intend to hunt during September.

Course times and locations will be published in the Fort Wainwright newspaper. Information also can be obtained by calling the Wildlife Enforcement Office, 353-1205, or the Military Police information number, 353-9135.

Reservations must be made in advance. Additional courses may be offered, depending on interest.

Requirements for using military lands apply to hunting big game as well as small animals like rabbit and grouse.

Permission can be obtained for Army property behind Eielson Air Force Base and south of the Richardson Highway.

Small game hunters prefer the upland area along Birch Hill, north of the North Post, and moose hunters enjoy the area south of the Tanana River.

In the event the Wildlife Enforcement Office cannot be reached by phone, call the Military Police information number for questions about hunting and fishing regulations.

Moose Meat Pie

1 cup cubed, cooked meat
 1 tablespoon chopped onion
 2 tablespoons fat
 1 tablespoon chopped celery
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1 cup cubed, cooked potatoes
 1/2 cup cooked peas or green beans
 1/2 cup cubed cooked carrots
 1 tablespoon worcestershire sauce
 1 cup canned tomatoes with juice

Brown onion and celery in the fat. Add the meat, potatoes, vegetables and seasonings. Heat. Meanwhile, roll out pie dough (1 recipe pastry for eight-inch double crust pie) and line individual tins. Pour hot meat mixture into crusts and add top crust. Bake in hot oven 425 degrees about 20 minutes or until crust is nicely browned. Serves 2.

Caribou Hot Pot

Fill a one quart casserole almost to the top with:
 a layer of white potatoes sliced 1/2 inch thick,
 a layer of tough lean caribou meat cut small,
 a layer of sliced onions

Mix and spread over casserole:
 3/4 teaspoon salt
 3/4 teaspoon paprika (or more to taste)
 1 No. 300 can stewed tomatoes

Cover and bake in moderate oven 350 degrees about two hours. Half an hour before the dish will be done, stir in: 1/2 cup sour cream or yogurt. Serves 6.

Bear Steaks

Cut steaks or chops into one-inch thick serving size pieces. Mix 1/2 cup flour, 1/2 teaspoon cloves and one teaspoon ginger. Pound the mixture into the meat on both sides. Brown in fat in a moderately hot skillet. Salt and pepper after browning. Cover skillet and simmer 10 to 15 minutes. Always cook bear until well done.

Hunting and Fishing Day

Mark Sept. 24 on your calendar—that's the fifth annual National Hunting and Fishing Day, with another celebration planned for Fairbanks.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will have an open house at its offices, 1300 College Road, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Last year people enjoyed demonstrations by muzzleloaders, flycasters, bowhunters, hunting dogs and Fish and Game staff. They could shoot black powder rifles, pellet guns, bows and arrows and get some tips on fly casting. Some folks enjoyed trying their hand at working a retriever," says game biologist Cathie Harms.

"This year we're hoping for all this and more," she added.

More than a dozen local sportsmen's groups participated last year through exhibitions or displays.

"The variety of activities, displays and demonstrations attracted about 1,500 people. Just about everyone who hunts, fishes or enjoys the outdoors found something interesting," said Harms.

One purpose of the event is to let the public realize the extent of conservation programs brought about by sportsmen. More than \$5 billion has been provided by sportsmen in special fees and private contributions for programs benefitting both game and nongame species.

Department research and management projects are also displayed and exhibited, and demonstrations given. Last year visitors saw wildlife photos as well as hearing short presentations by research biologists.

Groups participating last year will soon be contacted about planning this year's events. Others not involved last year who would like to be included should contact the Department of Fish and Game at 452-1531.



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Reg. 40⁰⁰



Limited Quantities

**Western
Game Bags**

2 For 1¹⁹



Limited Quantities

Pentax Pocket

Binoculars

7x20 or 9x20
(12 only) (3 only)

Sale 99⁸⁸

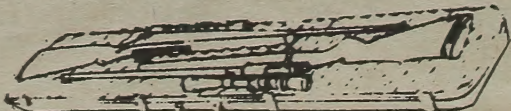
Reg. 129⁹⁵

Limited Quantities

**Gun Guard DLX Double
Rifle Gun Case**

Sale 59⁸⁸

Reg. 81⁹⁹

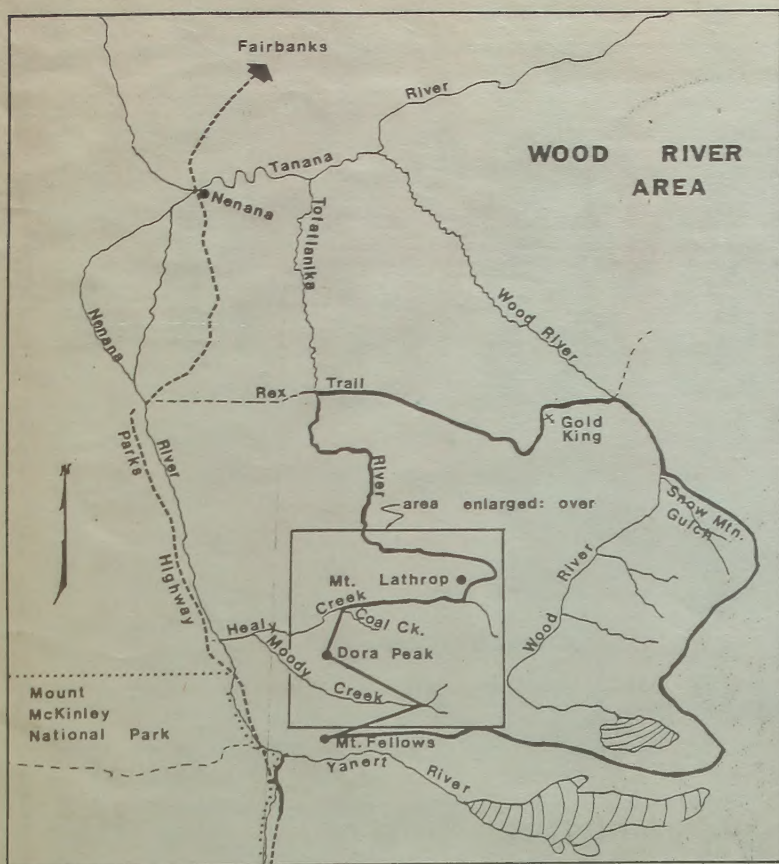


Limited Quantities

M-F 9:30-9
SAT 9:30-6
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JCPenney
Aug. 6th-8th

*Hunting Season
Specials!!*



Yanert-Wood River area divided

A change this spring in the Yanert-Wood River controlled use area should be noted by hunters who may want to use motorized vehicles in the previously closed area.

Following state Board of Game action, the area has been divided into two sections. A 500-square-mile portion in the Yanert River drainage will remain a controlled-use area and is off limits to motorized vehicles, except aircraft used to transport hunters.

The larger Wood River portion, about 1,000 square miles, will be open to motorized vehicles except from Aug. 1 to Sept. 30.

The change won't affect moose or sheep hunters, but is intended to benefit caribou hunters.

A reason behind the change is that last year, the caribou herd moved and settled in the controlled use area. Hunters will have an expanded oppor-

tunity after Sept. 30, when they can use snowmachines and other vehicles in the the area.

Also approved this spring was a companion proposal dropping the previous permit and registration caribou hunts, setting a long season with a bag limit of one caribou of either sex.

Sportsmen's council hopes to represent more groups

Ron Somerville, former state game director, has been hired as executive director of the Alaska Sportsmen's Council, a group which is reorganizing and may reaffiliate with the National Wildlife Federation.

The sportsmen's council, an umbrella organization of 33 Alaskan outdoor clubs, lost its affiliation with the federation because of allegations that it failed to represent a broad segment of Alaskan interests. The council has one year to activate committees and meet other requirements as a federation affiliate.

The Alaska council is rewriting its bylaws and considering a new name.

Additionally, it has created the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Conservation Fund, an educational and research foundation which will sponsor work on fish and wildlife issues.

Somerville said the Alaska Lands Act was a rift between the state affiliate and the federation.

"We're trying to broaden the voice of sportsmen in the state," said Somerville. "After last year's elections and this year's legislative session it's obvious that sportsmen are not well represented."

"We hope to get more outdoor groups like the kayakers, trailriders and mountain climbers who are concerned about the same things we are, such as access to public lands," he said.

Somerville said the council and conservation fund will work on a variety of issues.

The council's mailing address is 3780 McGinnis Dr., Juneau, 99801. Local Fairbanks phone numbers are 455-6151 or 479-6602.

HUNTER'S SPECIAL

70 h.p. electric start

Reg. \$3750⁰⁰ Now \$3369⁰⁰

50 h.p. manual, short-shaft

Reg. \$2730 Now \$2335⁰⁰

40 h.p. manual, long shaft

Reg. \$2214 Now \$1900⁰⁰
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452-2762

State of Alaska

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

September 24th



You're all invited to National Hunting and Fishing Day on Saturday, September 24 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Alaska Department of Fish and Game Office and Grounds, 1300 College Road (next to Creamer's Field).

There will be demonstrations, displays, and exhibits by Department personnel and sportsmen's groups. Activities and fun for the whole family! Prizes and refreshments!



Any sportsmen's groups wishing to exhibit or demonstrate should contact ADF&G at 452-1531 by August 20th



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HUNTING SALE



Ruger 10/22
Carbine Long Rifle

95.00 SAVE 39.00
Reg. 134.00

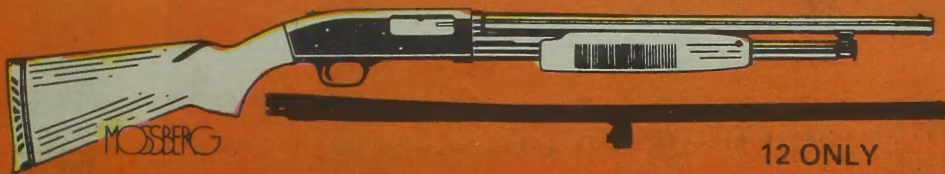
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Ruger "Single-Six"
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169.00 SAVE 26.00
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Blue finish. Ruger single action mechanism,
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Mossberg Shotgun

179.97 SAVE 49.03
Reg. 229.00

Two guns in one comes with 18 1/2" cylinder barrel for
Spring bear protection and security and 30" full plain
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Chambered for 12 gauge shots

12 ONLY



Western Sportsman
Big Game Bag

SAVE 26¢ Reg. 95¢

69¢

Allows good air circulation,
keeps out flies and
dust. Large enough for
largest deer or elk.

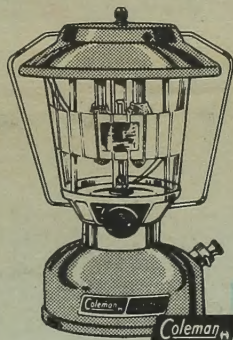


Hoppe's
Gun Oil

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Nitro powder solvent, No.
9. For cleaning and
protecting the bores of all
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SAVE 5.00 Reg. 44.99

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Easy-Lite valve, automatic
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rust resistant finish.
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Six only. Similar to
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Coated optics, opti-
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shockproof. Fits most .22
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Work Shirts

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Generous fit, long tails, double preshrunk
2 chest pockets. Many handsome plaids to
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XXL.

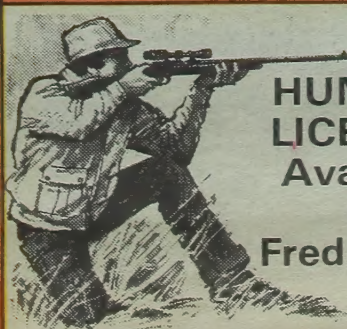
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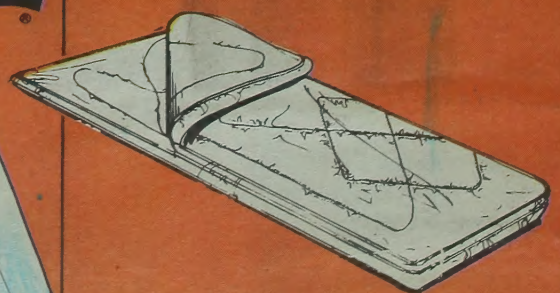
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